

May 1, 2005, 6 pm

19 Evergreen Ave. New London

Chair: Andy Derr Recorder: Ronna Stuller In attendance: Pat Bolles, Rick Buell, Peter de la Rosa, Tim Hanser, Kenric Hanson, Andy Derr, John Scott, Bob Stuller, Ronna Stuller

Edgerton School clean-up follow-up:

Ken reported that there were concerns raised at the last Board of Education meeting about a child who needed treatment for a rash; he plans to follow up further.

Glenn Cheney candidacy:

Glenn informed Bob that he plans to run for First Selectman of Sprague with a cross-endorsement from the Democrats. There was some question about whether a petitioning candidate may be cross-endorsed. Andy will check with David Bodell from the CT Elections Commission to clarify the rules. There was some discussion about whether a local party sponsorship is necessary; we think not, but would be willing to provide NL Greens backing if needed.

Love Makes a Family:

The Civil Unions bill passed and is now CT law; LMF plans to continue fighting for full marriage rights in a couple of years.

NL Earth Day:

Celebration will be held on Saturday, June 4, at Bates Woods; CT Trails Day is also June 4, and the Earth Day nature walks will be listed on the Trails Day brochure. There is lots of good music planned. Volunteers are needed for the day. Last night's fundraiser (with the Can Kickers) was great! Group is continuing to look at other ways to promote eco-awareness throughout the city and make every day Earth Day.

CCJEF: John reported on the CT Coalition for Justice in Educational Funding and recommended it as a worthwhile endeavor for Greens to support. NL Superintendent Chris Clouet was one of the founding members of the group, and CURE has joined. An adequacy (as opposed to equity) study is being performed, and a lawsuit pending to reform school funding in the long term. Andy will follow up on the issue with the state Green Party, and Ken will invite Chris Clouet to our June 5 meeting.

NL Commission Vacancies:

Bob reported that there are 2 openings for Alternates on the Conservation Commission and highly recommended the training available for the job. The Beautification Committee needs 1 additional member. Chris Nelson has been named an Alternation on the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Green Announcements:

Andy would like to pass the communication tasks to someone else. We discussed whether an email system (similar to that of the Peace & Justice network) would be valuable. Ronna agreed to research whether we can set up such a system through nlgreens.org.

Elections Committee:

Possible candidates at this time for November local elections include: Tim (City Council, if Charter Commission is dismissed by then), Ken (Council or Board of Ed), Ronna (Board of Ed), and Andy (Council). More interviews are scheduled this week. A nominating convention will be held on June 12, location TBA.

Fundraising:

Laura and Andy have put together a fundraising schedule. A Tag Sale is scheduled for June 25 (raindate June 26) at Ken's place. Ken, Andy and Rick volunteered to help, and Ronna will do PR and flyer.

State Central Committee:

Andy reported that there is no longer a state office; resolving this issue should lead to progress on completing a budget. The NL Greens have a \$156 credit with the state party. Elections have been held, and the new officers are: Co-Chairs - Mike De Rosa, Aaron Gustafson, Kelly McCarthy; Secretary - Barbara De Rosa; Treasurer - Judy Herkimer. There remain problems with personal relationships and, by some accounts, divisions based on economic class, within the state party. Candidate School will be held on Saturday, May 7, 10 AM-4 PM, at All-Souls UU in New London. Cost is \$5 to cover lunch. Voter-verified paper trail is expected to pass in this year's legislative session; VOTER plans to keep up pressure on Sec. of State Bysiewicz to insure that the RFP for voting machines reflects the law.

Charter Commission:

Tim reported on the progress of the commission, which has been divided into 3 committees: Form of Government, Board of Education, Finance & Referendum. In general, only modest changes are being recommended at this time.

Platform Committee:

Peter reported that the committee has not met in a couple of months (due to Chris' absence) but that some discussion has continued. He requested additional volunteers to work on platform. Tim expressed an interest in sharing ideas, though he is unavailable for meetings.

Next meeting will be held on Sunday, June 5, at the Stuller home. Facilitator: Kenric Hanson